IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 32 and 37 so that the pending claims are as follows:

Claims 1-31 (canceled).

32. (currently amended) A method for treating or preventing an infection caused by Gram positive bacteria in a patient comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically or prophylactively effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition,

wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprises an antibody to lipoteichoic acid of Gram positive bacteria, or fragment, region, or derivative ~~thereof~~ of the antibody, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and

wherein the antibody, fragment, region, or derivative thereof

(a) binds to lipoteichoic acid at a level that is twice background or greater, and

(b) enhances the opsonization of Gram positive bacteria by 75% or more.

33. (original) The method of claim 32, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

34. (original) The method of claim 33, wherein the monoclonal antibody is MAB 96-110.

35. (original) The method of claim 34, wherein MAB 96-110 is chimeric and humanized.

36. (original) The method of claim 32, wherein the antibody, fragment, region, or derivative thereof binds to a peptide sequence chosen from:

W R M Y F S H R H A H L R S P (SEQ ID NO: 1) and

W H W R H R I P L Q L A A G R (SEQ ID NO: 2).

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37. (currently amended) A method for treating or preventing an infection caused by Gram positive bacteria in a patient comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically or prophylactively effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition,

wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprises an antibody to lipoteichoic acid of Gram positive bacteria, or fragment, region, or derivative ~~thereof~~ of the antibody, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and

wherein the antibody, fragment, region, or derivative thereof bind to a peptide sequence chosen from:

W R M Y F S H R H A H L R S P (SEQ ID NO: 1) and

W H W R H R I P L Q L A A G R (SEQ ID NO: 2).

38. (original) The method of claim 37, wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.

39. (original) The method of claim 38, wherein the monoclonal antibody is MAB 96-110.

40. (original) The method of claim 39, wherein MAB 96-110 is chimeric and humanized.

41. (withdrawn) A method for treating or preventing an infection caused by Gram positive bacteria in a patient comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically or prophylactively effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition,

wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprises a lipoteichoic acid epitope peptide mimic, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, and

wherein the peptide mimic is a peptide sequence chosen from:

(a) W R M Y F S H R H A H L R S P (SEQ ID NO: 1);

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(b) W H W R H R I P L Q L A A G R (SEQ ID NO: 2); and

(c) peptide sequences that are substantially homologous to the sequences of (a) or (b).

42. (original) A method for treating or preventing an infection caused by Gram positive bacteria in a patient comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically or prophylactively effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition,

wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprises a peptide encoded by DNA of the variable region of the anti-lipoteichoic acid antibody of Figure 12, or by a sequence that is at least 70% homologous to that DNA, and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

43. (original) A method for treating or preventing an infection caused by Gram positive bacteria in a patient comprising administering to the patient a therapeutically or prophylactively effective amount of a pharmaceutical composition,

wherein the pharmaceutical composition comprises a peptide characterized by amino acids corresponding to one or more of the Complementarity Determining Regions of the variable regions of the anti-lipoteichoic acid antibody of Figure 12, or amino acids that are at least 70% homologous to the Complementarity Determining Regions.

44. (original) The method of claim 43, wherein the Complementarity Determining Regions are derived from MAB 96-110.

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IN THE DRAWINGS:

Subject to the Examiner's approval, please replace the current Figure 5 with the enclosed Figure 5. Also please replace current Figures 7A and 7B with the enclosed Figures 7A and 7B.

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